

RICHARD G. LUGAR
INDIANA

8107 DICKSON OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

INDIANA OFFICE
65 EAST CHASE STREET, ROOM 407
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

P800049-2129

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

E
B6

(2377)

COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORE
FOREIGN RELATIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

EXCISE

April 1, 1980

OCS

J. Brian Atwood
Assistant Secretary
Office of Congressional Relations
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Brian:

Enclosed please find correspondence Senator Richard G. Lugar has received requesting his immediate assistance. Because of the nature of the inquiry, it is being referred to you for active consideration.

After you have had an opportunity to review this matter, a response to Senator Lugar, at the Indiana office, to my attention, would be appreciated. It is not necessary to forward a copy of your response to the Senator's Washington, D.C. Office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ann M. Sofios

Ann M. Sofios
Constituent Services

✓ Enclosure

Re: Personal effects of Esther Lillian
Mueller who died in Jonestown
from [REDACTED]

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

1980 APR 24 PM 4 24

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY *MMart* DATE *2/27/81*
PORTAINS DENIED AS INDICATED

APR 2 1980

Senator Richard Lugar
5107 Senate Dirksen Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Senator Lugar:

We know you are a very busy man but whatever time you could spare to read this and any help or advice you may be able to give us certainly will be greatly appreciated.

My husband's mother, Esther Lillian Mueller, was one of the many who died in Jonestown, Guyana November 18, 1978. Perhaps you are wondering why I waited so long to write. Senator Lugar, we were waiting to give the State Dept. and Calif. plenty of time to settle things up as we realize under such terrible circumstances it does take time. No one can realize the anguish we have gone through this past year, not to mention the past years that my husband and I tried to prevent this from happening but she, like so many wouldn't listen. The Indianapolis Star of 12/15/78, stated "Lugar tried to help parents get son back from Jonestown". Because of this we felt you would understand our situation. Also, when my husband tried to get the necessary information he needed at the local social security office, we couldn't get any satisfaction. Thanks to your office personnel here, I believe her name was Patty Cook, he did get results, and we appreciate this so much. It is hard to go through such a sad ordeal and to get the so-called "run-around" doesn't help any. I know you will be glad to know your office here has helped us.

What we would like to know is why we haven't received any of Esther's personal effects. When my husband made arrangements with the Reese Funeral Home in Dover, Del. to have her remains sent here, he was told there was a packet of her personal belongings that we would receive. Then we were told to contact the State Dept., which we did and they didn't seem to know anything about such a packet. Our attorney has tried also. Where do we go from here? I feel there must have been something over there as well as in California that she had. Why hasn't California contacted us about her things? I truly believe our attorney has done all he could as he seems most helpful when we do contact him.

Once when you were on a local television station, I called immediately as we wanted to talk to you, but we were told you had already left the studio. I can't tell you everything in a letter due to some things being so confidential, although I wish we could see you as there is so much to be said, but I guess this can't be. We are still going through a lot (as are other survivors) so please let us know what we can do.

On the bright side of things, our son was in the Poncailli High School Marching Band for four years, so he got to see you several times from afar when the band and you were at the same public functions. He was so proud of being a member of the band and getting to share some activities with you even though as I said it was from afar.

Thank you again for your time and patience. We truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

B6